

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 154

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to recognize Grammy-nominated songwriter Drew Parker.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those Tennesseans who are wholly devoted to their craft and enrich the lives of their fellow citizens through their work; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Drew Parker, who was recently nominated for a 2023 Grammy Award as part of the writing team for a hit song released by country music superstar Luke Combs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parker, alongside Mr. Combs himself and Robert Williford, received a nomination in the Best Country Song category for the chart-topping "Doin' This"; and

WHEREAS, the song was released in November 2021 and peaked at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart on May 21, 2022, making it Luke Combs's fourteenth consecutive No. 1 single on that chart; and

WHEREAS, Drew Parker and his writing team are in good company in this year's Best Country Song category; the other nominees include Willie Nelson, Rodney Crowell, Taylor Swift, Miranda Lambert, Chris Stapleton, Maren Morris, and Cody Johnson; and

WHEREAS, a native of the Stewart community of Newton County, Georgia, Mr. Parker got his start singing at age three in front of church crowds, including those at Stewart Baptist Church; he began performing in gospel groups when he was twelve years old, and in 2008, the Georgia Country and Gospel Music Association awarded him Male Vocalist of the Year, Entertainer of the Year, and CD of the Year honors; and

WHEREAS, he moved to Nashville in 2015 after years of performing around Covington, Georgia, and Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, and supporting himself as an X-ray technologist; and

WHEREAS, after signing a publishing deal with River House and Warner/Chappell in 2017, Drew Parker helped Luke Combs pen his debut platinum album, *This One's For You*, and his single "1, 2 Many," as well as Jake Owen's single "Homemade"; and

WHEREAS, a noted performing artist as well as songwriter, Mr. Parker has released several singles of his own on the Warner Music Nashville label, including "While You're Gone," which peaked at No. 42 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart in 2021, and he set out on his headlining tour, *At the End of the Dirt Road*, in January 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause to honor troubadour Drew Parker, a songwriter and musician of the highest order; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate Drew Parker on his Grammy nomination in the category of Best Country Song, extending our best wishes for his success at the 65th Annual Grammy Awards and in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.